



## WHAT IS AISTEAR?

Aistear is a curriculum framework for children from birth to six years in Ireland. It describes the types of learning that are important for babies, toddlers and young children and we use this framework here in this service.

It emphasises the importance of play in the lives of children and provides lots of ideas on how we can support children to become confident, independent and happy individuals.

### AISTEAR THEMES

Aistear uses four themes to describe what children learn during their early childhood. The themes are:

- Well-being
- Identity and Belonging
- Communicating
- Exploring and Thinking



The staff in this service will provide your child with lots of learning opportunities to support the above themes and help your child develop holistically and reach his/her potential. This is done through a range of fun ideas and activities. Why not discuss this with your child's carer and find out ways that you can also support this development through everyday routines such as shopping, mealtime and bedtime. It is important that we work together, in partnership, for the good of your child.

The Aistear Toolkit which you will find at [www.ncca.ie/aisteartoolkit](http://www.ncca.ie/aisteartoolkit) has lots of resources to help you learn more about Aistear and to see how it might help you at home to support your child's learning and development. For example, there are three tip sheets for parents on helping your child learn through play.

Take a look around our service and you will find lots of examples of Aistear at work!!

